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Civic Youth Orchestra Seeks New Members

Partnership between Arapahoe Philharmonic and Avanti Music Academy enters second season

Littleton, CO – This fall, the Arapahoe Philharmonic (AP) begins its second year working with the Civic Youth Orchestra in partnership with Highlands Ranch-based Avanti Music Academy. The ensemble, for student musicians age 8–18, rehearses on Sunday evenings, 5–7:30 p.m. The 2017–2018 season will include 3–6 performances at venues in and around Highlands Ranch, as well as a side-by-side one-hour family performance of Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church in Highlands Ranch (April 2018).

Arapahoe Philharmonic musicians play with the CYO at every rehearsal, assisting students with musicianship, bowings, style and other aspects of the repertoire and instrument. The ensemble is led by conductor Devin Patrick Hughes, Music Director and Conductor of the Arapahoe Philharmonic and Boulder Symphony, and Arapahoe Philharmonic Apprentice Conductors Brian LaGuardia and Scott Bird.

Auditions will be held on **Saturday, September 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at Avanti Music Academy, 2030 E. County Line Road, #U, Highlands Ranch. Audition materials, requirements and registration may be found at <http://avantimusic.org/civic-youth-orchestra-south/>. Interested musicians may also audition throughout the fall by scheduling an audition through Avanti Music Academy.

About the Arapahoe Philharmonic

Founded in 1953, the Arapahoe Philharmonic is among the longest established, continuously operating musical resources in Colorado. The organization is dedicated to providing the highest degree of musical excellence and cultural enrichment to the region and engaging area youth in educational opportunities promoting an interest in classical music. The orchestra’s musicians are primarily volunteers playing for the love of music, with a core of compensated section principals who provide technical leadership and support the excellence of performance.

Concerts feature repertoire spanning the centuries, from the great masters to composers of the current day. The Philharmonic is invested in future generations, presenting an annual children's concert, sponsoring outreach to schools, working with area student honor orchestras, sponsoring a Play-In for

high school students to work side-by-side with experienced Arapahoe Philharmonic players, coaching the Civic Youth Orchestra in partnership with Avanti Music Academy in Highlands Ranch, and presenting three collegiate-level competitions, the T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition and the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting and Composition Competitions.

About the Music Director

Devin Patrick Hughes is highly regarded for his exhilarating score interpretations, advocacy for music accessibility and promotion of music of our time. He is concurrently serving as Music Director and Conductor of the Arapahoe Philharmonic and Boulder Symphony, and has established himself as a musical leader in the region through previous positions with the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, Denver Young Artists Orchestra, Denver Philharmonic Orchestra and Denver Contemporary Chamber Players. In 2010, Hughes was the only American selected with eleven other finalists in the Arturo Toscanini International Conducting Competition in Parma, Italy. He was recently selected from hundreds of his peers across the globe to compete in the 2017 Solti International Conducting Competition in Hungary. Hughes was a conducting fellow at the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen and has conducted ensembles across North America and Europe, including the Winnipeg Symphony, Colorado Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Green Bay Symphony and Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini. More information may be found at www.devinpatrickhughes.com.

About Avanti Music Academy

Avanti Music Academy, located in Highlands Ranch, offers instrumental and vocal music instruction to students of all ages. All instructors hold a music degree from an accredited four-year university and participate in a variety of performances locally, nationally and internationally. Private lessons, group classes, a unique masterclass program, musical theater opportunities and a new youth orchestra program (Civic Youth Orchestra) provide enriching artistic engagement and development.

About Amra Tomsic

Amra Tomsic, co-owner and founder of Avanti Music Academy, found his passion for music through a single teacher in school. It was then that he realized the impact it would have on his life and began to appreciate the importance of teaching. Mr. Tomsic studied music and sociology at Western State Colorado University in Gunnison and was granted a full voice scholarship to The Lamont School of Music at The University of Denver. Through Avanti Music Academy, he is able to pass his education and love of music on to hundreds of students.

About Drew Bradley

Avanti Music Academy's Drew Bradley graduated from the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music. He has performed internationally in Milan, Italy, as well as locally around Colorado in musical theater and opera. His passion for music has led him to performing and writing music in many different styles and settings. Although he loves performing, Drew has found his true joy lies in teaching music as co-owner of Avanti Music Academy. He believes all people should have the opportunity to experience the joy of music.

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